

The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending June 14, 1947



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FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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THREE MILES DOWN IN THE OCEAN

Exploring in the Wonderland of the Deep

A SCIENTIST who in a balloon has reached a height of over ten miles above the Earth is now planning to go down three miles in the opposite direction—into the depths of the ocean. Professor Auguste Piccard having in his search for new knowledge face unknown forces in the sky now intends to face the unknown deep down in the sea.

Some years ago Professor William Beebe, a famous American naturalist, explored new realms in his bathysphere, or steel globe, half-a-mile below the surface off the shores of Bermuda; Professor Piccard, the famous Belgian scientist, plans in the autumn to penetrate three miles beneath the surface of the sea in a ten-ton bathysphere, and his scene of operations is likely to be in the Gulf of Guinea, off the west coast of Africa.

His sphere will have walls five inches thick and two port-holes for observation of the strange forms of marine life. The professor plans to stay submerged for 12 hours but will carry food for three or four days in case anything goes wrong.

Sound-Wave Communication

Unlike previous experiments in deep-sea submersion, Professor Piccard's sphere will not be lowered at the end of a cable but will be free, descending by the force of gravity aided by ballast. When he wishes to rise again from the deep he will do so simply by releasing the ballast electrically. Communication will be maintained with the surface by means of sound waves. Oxygen apparatus similar to that

used in submarines will be carried.

And what is Professor Piccard likely to find in this strange submarine world which no human eye has yet seen?

Well, we do know that at a depth of three miles there will be a chilly darkness blacker than our blackest midnight. For millions of years there has been perpetual night in that abyss of the ocean. No gleam of daylight filters down. We know also from catches brought up to the surface by deep-dredging nets, as well as by previous human submersions, some of the types of creatures which live in the ocean two or three thousand feet down.

At that level it is an eerie, nightmare world, through which glide fantastic forms of life. Some of them are of wonderful beauty. There are eels and jelly-fish as transparent as glass, almost invisible in the water but for their luminous eyes. Silver-coloured hatchet-fish have been seen, with rows of little gleaming lights along their bodies and telescopic eyes peering through the darkness. Then there is the deep-sea squid, shaped like a small octopus, with enormous eyes and orange lights at the tips of its longest arms. Using its suckers and arms it twines itself about its victim and draws it into its jaws. The sabre-toothed dragon-fish, with its long sharp fangs, has an appearance equally ferocious.

The Strange Angler Fish

The most remarkable of all the denizens of this strange underwater world, however, is probably the fish which uses all the equipment of an angler to catch its prey. It is black and is four inches long, and from the centre of its forehead protrudes a supple rod extending into a slender, whip-like line. At the end of the line is a kind of grapple consisting of three strong, horny hooks, each fitted with a yellow light at its base, probably to entice the victim within reach of the hooks.

These grotesque creatures are adapted to life in their particular environment in much the same way as is the monkey, with its long prehensile tail for climbing trees, or the duck with its webbed feet for paddling through the water. Probably their evolution was one of the utmost

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Children They Will All Remain

MODEL YOUNGSTERS ON VIEW

LAST week, at the Royal Water-colour Society's galleries in Conduit Street, Lieut-Commander Peter Scott opened an Exhibition of Children in Sculpture for the Royal Society of British Sculptors.

Unlike the fair blossoms of a fruitful tree that the poet sorrowed to see so soon to pass, these children in bronze and marble, in pottery, stone, and wood, have come to stay—some in gardens, some as memorials, one in Queen Mary's boudoir, and another as part of a memorial panel to a dear old lady who gathered about her the children of East Ham. You may see them clamouring round the wrinkled, kindly face.

Make Your Choice

As the exhibition welcomes every child who will go to see these unknown playfellows, we hope that many CN readers will go and choose for themselves those they like best. The exhibition will be open until June 20. All we may do is modestly to mention our own choices among this galaxy of children playful and solemn, children wide awake and fast asleep, children laughing and on the brink of tears, and children in Mother's arms.

Almost by the door next to a group of children by Lady Kennet, who is Peter Scott's mother, is a stolid Dutch baby everybody would love to wake up though nobody would dare, and then there is the baby examining his toes, and his near neighbour simply roaring with merriment; and the boy who tightly holds to himself his treasured pet so that no harm shall come to it; and the boy who holds his bat as firmly to defend his wicket. We cannot here, however, assume the part of guide, but we must speak again of that serene Mother and Child in white marble which Queen Mary chose.

Now we must leave them all—those carved in wood, or marble, or modelled in clay, or bronzed like the memorial to Charles Lamb made for the Child's Welfare Foundation, opened by Queen Elizabeth—with expectations of seeing them somewhere again; and perhaps meeting the little girl in pigtailed who was the CN's own special favourite.

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gradualness and has taken them millions of years.

At these great depths of water the pressure upon them is tremendous; but they can withstand it. When brought to the surface they die, and often their bodies distend like a balloon under the slackened pressure.

What new marvels will be revealed by Professor Piccard's descent into this strange wonderland of the deep?

UNDER THE GREENWOOD TREE



Ever since it was formed the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park has been a source of much pleasure for Londoners. These players are performing in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.

Golden Eagle Spreads Her Paddles

NEXT Saturday, June 14, the famous old Golden Eagle, one of the Londoners' favourite pleasure steamers, will, for the first time since the war, carry a merry crowd of holiday-makers down the Thames estuary to meet the first white horses of the open sea. The Golden Eagle, elder sister of the Royal Eagle, not long ago returned from her war service to the General Steam Navigation Company which owns her. She is now to renew her peacetime journeys between the Tower Bridge, London, and Ramsgate.

Built in 1909, she has a proud record in two wars. In the First

World War she transported 518,100 troops, and in the recent war she made three hazardous trips to the Dunkirk beaches to bring back wounded soldiers. Afterwards she became an anti-aircraft ship defending her home waters, the Thames Estuary.

Although the Golden Eagle is propelled by paddles, she can get up a good speed and once, during a trial, she steamed at 18.5 knots. Her paddles enable her to enter the shallow water near the piers; for she is flat-bottomed and draws only six feet six inches.

Long may her paddles turn to bring pleasure to many thousands!

SPIDERS FROM BRUCE'S CAVE

AMONG the most curious forms of exports at the moment are spiders taken from Bruce's Cave, on the Cove estate, near Gretna Green. Overseas visitors to this cave, where, according to tradition, Bruce once hid from the English soldiers, make a point of taking a spider with them when they leave.

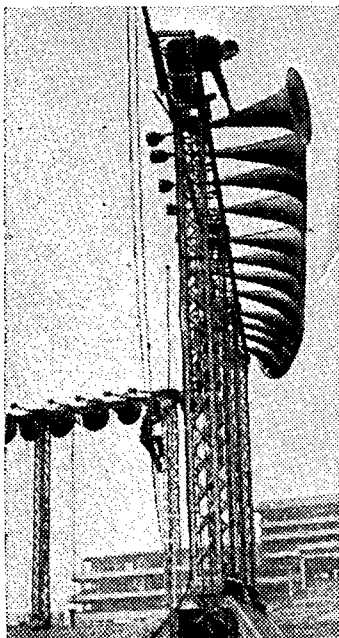
Legend has it that here the famous episode of Bruce and the spider occurred. The eventual liberator of Scotland had tried six times unsuccessfully to drive out the English. Weary and

despairing he lay in the cave idly watching a spider trying to bridge a gap in the stone roof with its web. Six times it attempted to swing itself over the intervening space and six times it failed.

"Now," said Bruce to himself, "if it succeeds the seventh time I shall make a seventh attempt myself."

The spider did succeed, and, heartened by this good omen, Bruce went on to ultimate victory—and a fame shared through the years with that spider.

THIS NOISY AGE



Just part of the battery of loud-speakers erected at the racecourse at Epsom for the Derby.

GERMANS TO REBUILD THEIR COUNTRY IN THE WEST

BRITAIN and America have decided to entrust to the Germans themselves very wide powers in the reconstruction of the occupied Zones which they at present control.

The next two months will be very difficult for many European nations, especially Germany. It is still a long time before the harvest can be brought in. The hardships of this year hit the Allies and their former foes alike, but it is in occupied Germany that misery is more apparent.

Why the difference? The answer is simple. We and most of our Allies are going through difficult times. But we have hope. We know that our own efforts will finally beat the shortages and we can look forward to a brighter future. Not so Germany as she is today. It is not that any of the Allies now desire to punish all the Germans for the misdeeds of the late Nazi regime. But the trouble with Germany is that Allied disagreements on how to deal with Germany have permitted things to drift. This has, in turn, bred uncertainty among the Germans and led them to despair for their future.

Two Zones as One

For many months past, unfortunately, things have been going from bad to worse in that country. This was one of the reasons why Britain and America linked their zones into one joint economic area. The fusion agreement, as this link-up has been called, has been in operation since January 1, 1947, but its success has been only moderate. It has certainly not reduced, to any worth-while extent, Britain's heavy expenditure on Germany's food.

But a new step was taken a few days ago to get the economic unity and reconstruction of the Anglo-American zones really going. An all-German Economic Council of 54 men chosen by the provincial parliaments is to be set up to plan reconstruction of the two Western Zones. This Council will work through the German provincial governments. This decision, it is said, puts in the hands of Germans greater

economic power than they have had since the end of the war, although all actions taken by this body will be subject to approval by the British and U.S. Military Governments.

This is by far the most important Allied decision on German economy taken since the Potsdam agreement. As Mr Bevin has declared, this new scheme in no way constitutes a final division of Germany into two halves, but is temporarily forced on us by the refusal of other Powers to agree to the genuine economic unity of the whole country. The invitation to France and Russia to join in is still open.

A Well-Tried Principle

Britain and America, however, have come to the conclusion that the old and well-tried principle of letting people fend for themselves is really the best way out of their troubles. True, we dare not yet trust the Germans with running all their industry. But in the matter of daily bread we can do no better than let the Germans themselves tackle the problem of how to make ends meet. But this they can do only if they are given opportunity to organise factory production to sell goods abroad in order to buy foreign food. And there can be no question that even the cleverest Military Government official may not hit upon an idea which that stern teacher—necessity—may put into the heads of people running their own business.

With the formation of the German Economic Council there are also good reasons to believe that our own expenses in that country may soon be reduced.

Finally, the Germans themselves, burdened with heavy responsibility, may suddenly discover that they have found a thing which they had almost given up as lost for good—the hope of a better future.

Lions Have Their Uses

It must cause surprise in lands that are free of man-eating wild beasts that the big game authorities of Africa propose to institute regulations for the preservation of the lion, leopard, and cheetah. It is the flesh-eaters, however, that maintain the balance of nature among the teeming herb-eating animals, and if they were too drastically reduced in numbers the animals upon which they prey might grow too numerous for the food available.

Naturalists tell a similar story of the tiger in India. Plague and scourge though it is to man, woman, and child, it is found that with tigers too few in wide areas, deer, and wild swine, and other enemies of cultivated crops multiply beyond all endurance, leaving the native cultivator further impoverished.

Here in Great Britain, where birds of prey have been persecuted almost to the point of extinction, we pay the penalty

in the form of excessive numbers of sparrows, wood pigeons, rooks, and other birds which, when too numerous, reduce our crops.

Nature is cruel to the individual, but careful of the species. By appointing fierce flesh-eaters among birds and beasts as her agents in checking over-population, she seems to say, in words that Milton used in another sense, "Evil, be thou my good!"

SCHOOLBOY ADVENTURERS

ON July 28 a party of British schoolboys, each past his fourteenth birthday, will sail from Tilbury to enjoy 38 days of camping, cruising, and trekking in Sweden, Norway, and Lapland. Every boy chosen must be able to swim. Amid the vast wild spaces of Scandinavia the party will have plenty of adventure, and a holiday packed with interest. Lieutenant-Commander Douglas Dixon will be in charge.

New Zealanders Learn To Swim

NEW ZEALAND'S Education Department tries to make every child a proficient swimmer by the time the fourth standard is reached. Swimming has always been taught in the Dominion's schools, but since 1940 intensive efforts have been made to "teach them young."

Co-operating with the New Zealand Amateur Swimming Association, successful experiments have been made in modern methods of teaching, and fine results have been achieved. Of a representative section of about 400 children nearly 70 per cent swam a width of the baths within five days and all but nine were using the "crawl" stroke over a width after only seven days of tuition. Instructors have found from experience that after instilling confidence in the pupil, and explaining the basic rules of flotation, the best and most efficient method is to teach the crawl stroke right away.

Every encouragement has been given to schools, and in some cases to local councils, wishing to build learners' pools. A £1 for £1 subsidy is paid through the Department of Education for every pool constructed. In many cases school and parents' committees have co-operated, and the pool at the Cornwall Park School in Auckland, for instance, was constructed over the weekend by voluntary labour; pupils left school on Friday afternoon to find a brand new swimming-bath ready for use on Monday morning. Over 35 of these pools have been subsidised throughout the Dominion.

Government assistance has given a new lease of life to swimming and life-saving. Today the main aim is that all children in New Zealand shall learn to swim. When that target has been reached the next step will be teaching all children the latest life-saving methods.

HOME-MAKER TO THE WORLD

SWEDEN has now delivered the last of the 5000 prefabricated houses she has built for Britain. About seventy factories in Sweden have been turning out these houses at the rate of 20,000 to 21,000 houses annually, and using about 30,000,000 cubic feet of timber a year. Half of the factories work exclusively for the domestic market, while the other half produce for export.

Sweden deserves the name of the "world's home-maker," because her gigantic forests have supplied the wood needed for the quick building of these homes. Ninety per cent of all Swedish one-family houses in rural areas and suburbs are now built of wood. Stockholm has taken the lead among the world's cities in building prefabricated homes. Several whole new communities built entirely of "ready-mades" have sprung up around the Swedish capital.

The idea of cutting timber to certain lengths, sawing it into numbered sections, and bolting it together is not entirely new, of course, but Sweden has developed the idea so much that many parts of the world now look to her for houses, especially when they want them quickly.

WORLD NEWS REEL

AGREEMENT. The Anglo-French Conference at Dakar—described in last week's CN—has ended successfully in agreement on measures to develop road, rail, telephone, telegraph, and radio links between British and French West African territories.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation's budget for 1946-47 is approximately £650,000. Britain's share is £67,000.

On June 11 a British book exhibition is being opened at Belgrade. A British book exhibition in Zagreb, capital of Croatia, was opened recently for ten days and was visited by 11,000 people.

OLD SOLDIERS. Dr Peter Joseph FitzHarris, a veteran of the American Civil War (he served as a drummer boy) has died at the age of 97. There are now 96 veterans of the Federal side (Northern States) still living, and about 80 survivors of the Confederate armies (Southern States).

A new star, 1000 light years away, in the constellation of Sagittarius, has been seen from Mount Wilson, near Pasadena, U.S.A.

HOME NEWS REEL

CHICKOO. At Camerton, Somerset, not long ago, a three-week-old chick was found in a blackbird's nest seven feet above the ground.

On the mountainside at Abergillery in Monmouthshire, recently, a mass of live caterpillars, two miles square, prevented a Sunday School from holding its sports. Hundreds of seagulls were attracted by the caterpillars.

When Princess Elizabeth inspected the pensioners at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, recently, the oldest of the veterans on parade was 90, and their average age was 75.

LUCKY? In Northumberland children are not to be excused from school to do farm work.

Wembley police have made a model street for road-safety demonstrations in schools in North and North-West London.

Paddington schoolchildren are to receive 500 road-safety games to help them to learn the Highway Code.

STONE MEN. A new organisation called Men of the Stones was inaugurated recently at Stamford. Its aim is to preserve ancient and historic buildings, particularly in the towns and villages in limestone areas.

A smock mill at Wortham, the only one of its kind in Suffolk, is to be bought by the County Council for preservation.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

LAST AND FIRST. The last piece of wood to be alight at the final camp fire at the World Jamboree in Holland in 1937 will be used to light the first camp fire at the World Jamboree in France this August.

The Scout Silver Cross has been awarded to Rover Scout Bernard Town of the 1st Furze Platt Group, Maidenhead. During the floods he took food by punt to stranded people, and on several occasions, at considerable risk, conveyed doctors and staff to and from the Maidenhead Nursing Home.

Many members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are

Strasbourg is celebrating a "Grand Fortnight" to mark the renewal of its life. There is a textile exhibition, a Bach festival, and an international book exhibition.

The Linnean Society's Gold Medal has been presented to Professor Maurice Caullery of Paris for his services to biological science.

SWISS CUSTOMERS. Trade between Britain and Switzerland has reached record proportions, it was announced at a recent gathering of the British Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland.

Mr Gandhi recently lost the five-shilling watch which for 25 years he has carried fastened to his loin cloth. It was the only foreign-made article he used.

The British film, *Great Expectations*, has been highly praised by critics and audiences in the United States.

The United States and Denmark are to open negotiations about the defence of Greenland, over which Denmark has sovereignty. The U.S. desires that Greenland shall never be occupied by any aggressor of the United States or the Western Hemisphere.

At the recent British Legion Conference at Douglas, Isle of Man, a resolution was carried suggesting the formation of a world federation of ex-Servicemen whose main object would be to prevent further wars.

WELL! WELL! Not long ago four little piglets fell down a disused well at Rainham. Fireman Len Martin was lowered down the well with a sack, and he had to chase them round the bottom of the well before he got them to safety.

More than 300 sheepdogs have been "adopted" under the Canine Defence League's "Sunday Dinners" scheme.

Half-hour flights from Birmingham airport were given to 32 children of a Rubery, Worcestershire, school to make them air-minded.

TREAT BOOKS KINDLY. Orpington, Kent, Public Library is trying to improve the "book manners" of borrowers with an exhibition of damaged books—chewed by puppies, dropped in the mud, soaked in the rain, and covered with ink and tea marks.

Mr Norman W. Johnson of Gaudry, North Fife, a former schoolmaster, who is 60, has become a student at St Andrew's University, and is starting on a two years' divinity course to prepare himself for the Ministry of the Church of Scotland.

active in Scout leadership in the Dominion of Canada. One of them, Sergeant Bartram, is Director of the Lone Scout Branch for Saskatchewan.

KIND AUSTRALIANS. On a recent Saturday the 1st Bowral Boy Scouts, Cubs, and Girl Guides made a door-to-door call in their town (population about 3000) and collected over 2000 tins of food, £50, and hundreds of meat and butter coupons for "Food for Britain."

Several crippled or partially blind Girl Guides have been running a camp at Wreat Green, Lancashire, almost unaided.

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A Very Ancient Home of Man

PROFESSOR JOHN GARSTANG, of Liverpool University, the famous archaeologist, has been telling members of the Society of Antiquaries of his discoveries at the site of a prehistoric village at Mersina, in southern Turkey. He estimates that it is at least 8000 years old, and is the most ancient human settlement yet discovered. According to Arab legend, in this area lay the Garden of Eden.

Professor Garstang found that thousands of years ago the people in this ancient village had quite a high degree of culture. There were industries of weaving cloth and moulding artistic pottery. Domestic animals were also kept, and fields were sown, the chief crop being barley.

"We found a remarkable defensive system," said the professor, "which was comparable in every way with our medieval fortresses. There were thick outer walls, pierced with slit windows for the use of archers, while barrack-rooms, abutting against the interior of the main defences, formed domestic apartments. We found household utensils of the period in abundance.

"Inside, there was a large house with a courtyard which had, apparently, belonged to a superior officer. It was more richly furnished and contained important objects, particularly some polychrome pottery painted in lustrous colours."

In all there are 26 levels at this site, each one representing a new civilisation which, in the passage of time, had been covered over and forgotten. By studying the remains at the different levels one can see the development of these peoples down the ages just as if one were turning over the leaves of a history book.

LARRY'S ADVENTURES

ON Whit Sunday holiday traffic was brought to a standstill on the London-Holyhead road, near Conway, while large crowds watched the daring rescue of a lamb trapped on a narrow ledge of the Carreg-Gwalch Rock, 300 feet above the main road.

Mr R. E. Griffiths, an inspector of quarries, of Penmaenmawr, was lowered 120 feet from the top of the rock. He secured the exhausted lamb, and then lowered it a further 100 feet to police officers waiting below.

A Boy and a Glider



Thirteen-year-old Michael Hinton, perhaps the world's youngest glider pilot, climbs into the cockpit.



The Old Order Changeth

This old stage coach, the Tally-ho, drawn by a fine team of greys, carried the mail to Northolt Aerodrome, there to be transferred to a Viking airliner. This romantic echo from the past marked the first flight on the British European Airways London-to-Geneva service.

THE HEALTHIEST JOBS

By sending trained interviewers to make inquiries from door to door, the Ministry of Health has gleaned some interesting facts about the health of people in England and Wales.

Surprisingly, mining and quarrying seem to be the healthiest jobs, for the inquirers found less illness among miners and quarrymen than among workers in any other occupation—though injury is more frequent. People living in towns are not more free from illnesses of any kind than countryfolk. Women complain of more, minor ailments than men, but there is little difference between men and women in serious illnesses.

The annual loss of men's work through illness is about 230 million man-days—a loss which will be reduced, it is to be hoped, by new health services.

The Prosperous Village

MANY of us have money problems, but Harting, Sussex, Parish Council has the unusual problem—not of obtaining money, but of disposing of it.

Under a will made in 1908, needy people over 70 years of age whose income was less than 10s a week and who had lived in Harting for more than ten years were to receive benefit.

But at present Harting has no residents who come under these conditions, and under the terms of the will the money may not be used for any other purposes. So the money remains with the Parish Council until one of the poorer villagers reaches three score years and ten, having lived ten years in Harting.

A RIFT IN THE SEA BED

A DEEP canyon in the bed of the sea close to the coast of South Australia, near the mouth of the Murray River, has been discovered. The bed of the sea hereabouts is from 300 to 600 feet deep, but it has now been found that about 30 miles south of Kangaroo Island, it drops to 3000 feet. The newly-discovered canyon is eight miles wide. To find its extent and depth the surveyors on board HMAS Lachlan made 70,000 soundings in three weeks.

A Young Conductor

AN Italian boy of nine, Pierino Gamba, is showing that he is the equal of many grown-up conductors. Yet he remains a light-hearted lad of nine.

Not long ago in Paris, Pierino conducted—without a score—the famous Lamoureux Orchestra before an audience of 3000. He led the orchestra through Schubert's Unfinished Symphony, the Barber of Seville overture, and Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and at the end the audience applauded him wildly. Pierino does not like that part of the business much. He stared at them awkwardly for a few moments, then their cheers turned to laughter as he ran nimbly from the rostrum and jumped off the stage like a boy running out of school on the last day of term.

He was anxious to get back to his other interests. For Pierino loves the old-fashioned game of marbles, and he is also fond of playing with toy trains—it is even possible he likes these as well as he likes conducting.

SCHOOL CENTENARY

RADLEY COLLEGE, near Abingdon, Berkshire, is celebrating the centenary of its foundation this week, on June 10.

This fine public school, accommodating about four hundred boys, has turned out thousands of splendid men in its time. Radley has a fine tradition for sport, especially rowing.

Stamp News

THE J. S. McNeill collection of Australian Stamps, which had been in the vault of a Melbourne bank for ten years, was recently sold for about £6000. It was the biggest sum ever paid for a collection of stamps in Australia. IN London, not long ago, a New Zealand penny stamp was sold for £67 10s.

EARLY this month a new 3 cent maroon stamp, issued in honour of the doctors of America, will be on sale in the U.S. The stamp bears a reproduction of the famous painting, The Doctor, by the British artist, Sir Luke Fildes, who died in 1927. The painting was in the Royal Academy of 1891, and is now in the Tate Gallery.

THE PENNINE WAY FOR RAMBLERS

THERE is to be an unbroken footpath for ramblers, following the Pennine Chain for 250 miles—from Edale, in Derbyshire, to the Cheviots and the Scottish border. Much of this long, long trail is already available as a right of way, and soon, it is hoped, the gaps will exist no longer.

Mr Tom Stephenson, secretary of the Pennine Way Association, is the originator of this fine plan, which is receiving the consideration of the Minister of Town and Country Planning.

By mountain, hill, and dale, ramblers will be able to enjoy some of the most glorious scenery in England, and it is to be hoped that in time there will be sufficient youth hostels to serve their needs.

Identity Discs For Fish

As part of an investigation by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea into salmon and sea-trout migrations the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has devised an "identity disc" for fish. This is a small celluloid tube containing a slip of paper with instructions as to how they can be helpful to whoever catches the fish. The tube is attached to the dorsal fin by a loop of silver wire.

Between now and September salmon and sea-trout caught off the Yorkshire coast will have the "identity disc" attached and be then released. The finder of one of these fish will be rewarded with five shillings upon returning the disc to the Ministry with the details of the place of catch.

BOOTS RETURNS HOME

FROM the United States comes the story of a cat called Boots, whose mistress sent it from her home at Racine, in Wisconsin, to stay with her mother, who lives in Albion, Pennsylvania, 600 miles away. After a month Boots disappeared from Albion and made its way along a road it had never been before to turn up eventually at its old home, apparently little the worse for its adventures.

Exodus From a River Bed

SOME weeks ago the C.N. wrote of the great task tackled by Unrra's engineers of putting the Yellow River, in China, back in its old course. Now the news comes that "China's Sorrow," as the river is called, has not suffered the change without trying to live up to its old name and causing sad upheaval in the lives of many thousands.

For about 250,000 Chinese peasants took up their abode in the actual dry bed of the river when its course was changed in 1938 by Chinese engineers who were trying to stop the Japanese invaders. The soil in the dry river bed, consisting of silt brought down by the river and deposited there, was extremely fertile, and squatters hastened to sow and reap the fine crops that could be grown in it. The question arose as to what was to be done with these squatters when the river began to flow back in its rightful course.

It is sad to record that the two political authorities controlling this area, the Communists and the Chinese National Government, instead of combining to help the squatters, engaged in a bitter wrangle. So Unrra again came to the rescue and by patient negotiations persuaded both parties to come to terms—a splendid job of work indeed. The Nationalists have provided the evacuated peasants with the promised amounts of flour and money in compensation for the loss of their river-bed farms, so that they can begin farming again elsewhere; and the Communists undertook the arduous work of moving the squatters from the path of the river.

THE MINIATURE COUNTY

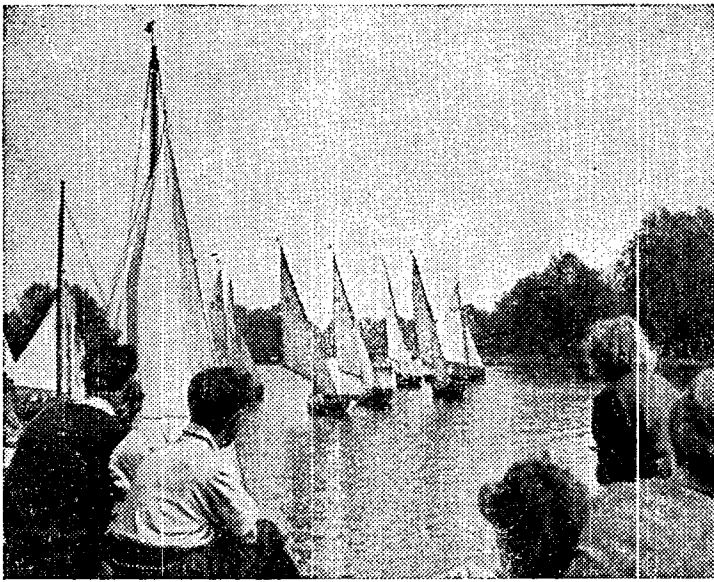
THE first assize court to be held for 22 years in Rutland, England's smallest county, took place recently at Oakham Castle. A large crowd of Rutlanders watched the procession of the judges from Oakham Church to the castle.

The walls of the hall of the Norman castle in which the Court was held are lined with enormous horseshoes, some of them surmounted by crowns, which have, by ancient customary right, been given by kings, queens, and nobles to the lords of the manor of Oakham as toll for entering the town.

A Boy and a Tractor



Six-year-old Malcolm Jeffery in the seat of a tractor on his father's farm in Cornwall.



A Yacht Race on the Broads

Like a breath from one of Arthur Ransome's grand tales of the Norfolk Broads is this exhilarating picture of the start of a yacht race, taken during the first of this year's Broads' regattas.

Treasure Island Was Written For Him

WHEN Samuel Lloyd Osbourne died recently at his home in California English-speaking boys and girls the world over lost a life-long friend. He was 79, but he always seemed lastingly young, remaining in our minds the delightful boy he was when Robert Louis Stevenson, who became his stepfather in 1880, drew for him the wonderful map from which grew the imperishable story of *Treasure Island*.

Lloyd, as he was called, was the "S. L. O., an American gentleman," to whom, when he was a small boy, *Treasure Island* was dedicated with comic gravity. The story was read to him chapter by chapter as it was written, and his approval was endorsed by the world at large, for the work established Stevenson's fame, shedding lustre on all that he had written previously and assuring the success of all that followed.

Lloyd and his gifted stepfather were loving comrades to the end of Stevenson's life. "You should hear Lloyd on the penny whistle and me on the piano," wrote R. L. S., adding: "Dear powers, what a concerto! I now live for the piano, he for the whistle." But they shared toy soldiers, military games, paint-boxes, and a printing press, and when Lloyd grew up they shared

certain literary labours, too—not, of course, books bearing Stevenson's name alone, but *The Wrong Box*, *The Wrecker*, and *The Ebb Tide*, which were joint productions. Osbourne also wrote stories on his own.

The labour for which we are chiefly indebted to him, however, is the one he discharged when, coming specially to London, he helped the conversion of the story of *Treasure Island* into the play, exactly as he knew its author meant it to be enacted on the pages that formed his stage, when it was first composed and named *The Sea Cook*.

It was by young Lloyd's stern instructions to the author that there was "no nonsense" about women figuring in the book. True, he consented to the appearance of Mrs Hawkins in the early pages at the Admiral Benbow, but that was only to get the hero, her son, Jim Hawkins, launched for the great adventure.

So as we read and re-read the story, or sit and watch the play, which this year attains its silver jubilee on the stage, we realise that the spirit of that little boy, who was young when *Treasure Island* was written, presides over both the novel and the drama, and that our enjoyment derives from what was in the first instance imagined for Lloyd Osbourne's sole delight.

HALF-A-MILE OF KINDNESS

WE should dearly have loved to watch a certain procession that moved through the streets of Hamilton, New Zealand, not long ago. It was composed of hundreds of schoolchildren, and each one, from neatly-uniformed secondary school pupil to youngest kindergarten, proudly carried a bundle of clothing for less fortunate children in Great Britain and Empire.

The children who brought their gifts came from the city, the suburbs, and the rich farming lands that lie within sight of the lovely Waikato River, and a long line of merry helpers they made.

Two Boy Scouts had swung a

hammock between their bicycles and into this were heaped bundles of garments until the carrier was in danger of overbalancing; and included in the procession were Girl Guides, Junior Red Cross workers, Girls' Life Brigaders, and hundreds of children from the Young New Zealanders Club, a recently-formed film organisation.

With the children marching three and four abreast, the procession stretched for over half-a-mile—half-a-mile of kindness reaching out across the world. That pilgrimage of little bundle-laden people, laughing and dancing on their way, must indeed have been a truly inspiring and memorable sight.

June 14, 1947

A NEW BIBLE IN ENGLISH

THERE is to be a new Bible, written in everyday English and printed in the form of a modern book, which will be a recognised alternative to the Authorised Version.

No one, of course, wishes to displace the glorious and melodious version which King James the First's translators of 1611 gave to the English people. That is a precious part of the English language. But leaders of the churches feel that the time is ripe for a Bible which can be read as easily as any other book and avoids the ancient ways of spelling and references of the ordinary Bible.

This new Bible will not be a revision of the Authorised or the Revised Versions. The translators will go back to the Greek and Hebrew texts and will translate in as clear and as simple English as they can. They will call in the help of literary men to advise them on phrases and wording; they will try to avoid words which have no meaning today; and they will use quotation marks and print poetry as poetry, as ordinary books do.

If its translators do their work as well as King James's men, then a new treasure of great price will be given to the English-speaking world.

Cars on a Lorry



There are twelve new motor-car bodies loaded on this big lorry. They are on their way to a factory to be fitted on chassis.

A Running Pupil Becomes a Star

A GENERATION ago the name of Paavo Nurmi was as familiar to all who followed world athletics as was the name of Jack Hobbs to cricket lovers.

This "leather-lunged" Finn, as he was called, had no rival in long-distance running. He used to run watch in hand, and never seemed to tire.

Nurmi now has a pupil who is outshining even his wonderful coach. Viljo Heino is the pupil's name. He is 33, is a foreman in a motor factory in Finland, and has two children.

The other day in the British Games at the White City, London, Heino beat Nurmi's six-mile British record of 29 minutes 36.4 seconds by no less than 14 seconds—a most remarkable performance.

Heino has done this distance in an even shorter time. He will be a prominent competitor in the Olympic Games next year.

The Editor's Table

WORLD FAMILY

A MOVING and astonishing thing happened in Westminster Abbey on Whit Sunday. A great congregation had gathered for a united service of international Christian witness. Germans walked with Russians, Africans with Dutchmen, Norwegians with Greeks, Englishmen with Poles. Men of different colour, race, and culture moved in friendship up the Abbey nave, heralded by the splendour of Westminster's golden cross carried by a fair-haired boy.

One lesson was read in Russian and another in German, but at the close of the service every worshipper was bidden to say the Lord's Prayer "every man in his own tongue wherever he was born." Different tongues, but the same prayer. In that act the universal family prayer was recognised as a universal link binding all men.

As the great congregation passed into the sunlit streets of London men said to one another that they had never before realised the truth that a world religion, such as Christianity, can link men of differing races together, and the symbol of it, to them, was the saying together of the Lord's Prayer, "every man in his own tongue."

THE C N is constantly affirming its belief that good and noble deeds every day outnumber the bad. It believes also that the Christian religion has an all-important part to play in seeing that the good triumphs over the bad, and that the power of religion can be even stronger than it is. The congregation in the Abbey was a demonstration of the great and growing family round the world which is in unison able to say "Our Father."

Walking in the Abbey procession were ten stalwart young Africans studying in London to become leaders of their people in West Africa. They prayed while kneeling beside the gowned ministers of German churches. Stately in colour and vestment were bishops of the Greek church, marching beside the Swedes and the Swiss, with Indians and Chinese just behind them. And theirs was that same prayer, beginning with the same tender words, "Our Father."

FOR centuries men have said this prayer inside their own national divisions and in their divided churches; but "Our Father" is now becoming truly the prayer of all men as they gather together at international meetings and conferences. A world family spirit is growing, though it may be slowly and every now and then seem to fade altogether. But when men remember the Great Family of God into which they are born, and the prayer of which it is a symbol, then the great human family can take new heart.

WHY LEARN?

THE Chief Scout made a challenging statement when addressing Head Teachers at a recent dinner.

"During the war," Lord Rowallan said, "I was given the task of developing the leadership qualities of young men who had intelligence of a high order. Many of them had devoted their lives to the acquisition of knowledge to enable them to pass examinations. The application of it had no interest for them whatever, and they had become slaves of the examination system."

These are words to make us think hard. What is the use of a student learning something if its significance for him and the world he lives in is quite lost on him? That is a mere extension of the parrot-like way of learning.

A Disturbed Nesting Place

THE silent, deserted marsh at Newton Moss, near Penrith, in the Lake District, is today a warning to us all of the results of nest-harrying on a large scale. For generations this marsh has been a favourite nesting-site for black-headed gulls, and at this time of the year the air is usually filled with the wings of thousands of these handsome birds. This year not one is to be seen.

The reason is that during the war Newton Moss was plundered systematically by collectors who sold the eggs to the city markets. Last year hardly an egg was left.

Now the gulls have suddenly and as if by common consent forsaken Newton Moss and are nesting on another swamp a few miles away. It is to be hoped that they have found a safer haven and will be protected from marauders there.

JUST AN IDEA

True merit is like a river, the deeper it is the less noise it makes.

Under the Egg



PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If doggerel can be written about cats

TRAINS on the Underground were held up for two hours. Someone's arms must have ached.

THE new British family car is outstanding. Its owners evidently haven't a garage.

THERE are a million and a half small poultry-keepers in Britain. Any tall ones?

MOST children like music that goes with a swing. Some prefer the swing without the music.

HOLIDAYS provide everyone with an excuse to buy new clothes. But not the money.

Gracious Refusal

AN offer of help to buy food is not easily refused in days like these. But that is what happened recently when, from the Geneva office of the World Council of Churches, over one thousand pounds was sent to Holland, so that the Dutch churches might be able to buy food for some of their poorest members. The answer came back, "Thank you, very much, but the needs of German people are greater than ours; please use it for them."

Acting on that gracious refusal the World Council of Churches decided to buy herrings, which were sent to Hamburg and distributed by church workers to the most needy members of the community. Since then great numbers of letters from members of the German churches have been arriving in Geneva.

Such a gracious refusal is one of the ways in which the hard life of Europe is made easier.

ON TICK

THREE members of the Government have lately told us that we are "living on tick," and the country is being placarded with posters bearing the same expression.

There have been murmurs that it is not exactly Parliamentary language, and that "on credit" would sound more respectable. True, it is more forceful than elegant, but it has the sanction of very old usage for an account at a shop, and is probably a colloquial abbreviation for the word ticket. Perhaps its application to our present circumstances is meant to imply that poor people—and we are certainly poor—have tick, while their more prosperous neighbours obtain credit.

June Quietude

THE streams with softest sounds are flowing;
The grass, you almost hear it growing.

Wordsworth

Editor's Table

THE farm labourer's lot should be improved. His chief complaint is that he hasn't a lot

IF you have a whole tea-set you are very lucky. Luckier still if you have some tea to put in it.

A FAMOUS footballer believes in singing on the way to a match—and when he comes back. But perhaps a different song?

COTTON yarn has regained the pre-Christmas level. That tells its own tale.



A FARMER says he is going to let two fierce bulls protect his farm. Who will protect him?

THINGS SAID

THE Russian people by their close and friendly interest in British literature, lecturers, and visitors, and by their keenness to learn our language, show the sincerity of their friendship for us. *Sir Archibald Sinclair*

RELATIONS between the Big Powers are strained, but I see no chance of their fighting. The Dutch have a proverb: Big dogs don't fight.

General Smuts

WE have to turn out the goods or bust. Anything that delays or lessens production is a blow in the face for the organised workers and their cause.

Herbert Morrison, M P

BRITAIN'S economic problem is of such magnitude that it can be solved only by broad, tolerant, and sympathetic understanding by other nations.

The Prime Minister of Australia

IT is through the young people of this country that happiness will be found for the children of the future. *Princess Elizabeth*

This Kind World

IT was Fair Week at Bodmin—the week when the swings and roundabouts arrive and scores of people flock in from miles around to enjoy all the fun of the fair.

But there was one afternoon and evening when the fair-ground was closed to its usual patrons. For five hours the public were not admitted. Yet the fair was in full swing just the same. There were 450 people making merry, riding on the roundabouts, playing at houp-la and all the rest of it, amusing themselves no end—and at no expense!

Those privileged folk were patients of the local Mental Hospital, and under the watchful eyes of their attendants were being entertained to a rare treat for a few hours. There was a free tea for them, too!

It was just another example of the many ways in which the milk of human kindness still flows.

Summer Riches

A CLOUDLESS sky, a world of heather,
Purple of foxglove, yellow of broom;
Crowds of bees are giddy with clover,
Crowds of grasshoppers skip at our feet,
Crowds of larks at their matins hang over,
Thanking the Lord for a life so sweet.

Jean Ingelow

THE WORTH OF BOOKS

I SAY we ought to reverence books, to look on them as useful and mighty things. If they are good and true, whether they are about religion or politics, farming, trade, or medicine, they are the message of Christ the Maker of all things, the Teacher of all truth. *Charles Kingsley*

The Royal Tournament

THIS week, on Thursday June 12, the King and Queen are to open the first Royal Tournament to be held since 1939. There will be daily performances at Olympia, London, until June 28. This tournament, in which the Royal Navy, the Army, and the R A F give a display of some of their manual skill, is an old favourite with the public, and most of all with boys and girls.

Youth is represented in the performances by the Army Apprentices School, which is to give a display called Toy Soldiers, that, amusing to the onlookers, requires a high degree of precision in the young men's drill.

An exciting scene this year will be a realistic imitation of a Commando raid.

Horse-lovers will be fascinated by the jumping competitions, the riding and driving display of the



Not an airborne soldier, but a Navy man rehearsing for a physical training display in the Royal Tournament.

R A S C, and trick riding by the Royal Army Veterinary Corps.

Perhaps the most inspiring spectacle will be the massed pipe bands of the Highland Regiments and an exhibition of Highland dances by the world-famous kilted warriors.

The Royal Navy are holding field-gun competitions—showing their skill in handling the guns. The King's Squad of the Royal Marines are giving a drill display. Physical Training display is being given by the Navy and the Army, and the R A F are giving a demonstration of free exercises and maze movements. There is also to be a motor bicycle display—noisy but intensely interesting.

The revival of the Royal Tournament, in spite of its martial flavour, marks a pleasing return to peacetime conditions in the Services.

PREVENTING WINDFALLS

MANY fruit farmers this summer are taking advantage of a new method, recently discovered by scientists, of drastically reducing the quantity of fruit falling from trees before the fruit harvest begins. Scientists have found that hormones enable a tree to retain its fruit.

At East Malling Research Station in Kent, apple trees were sprayed with this growth-controlling secretion, called Pre-Harvest-Drop Hormone Spray, and the number of apples that fell before harvest was greatly reduced.

ETON COLLEGE CELEBRATES ITS 500 YEARS

ETON COLLEGE, most widely-known of all our famous schools, is celebrating (five years late, owing to the war) the 500th anniversary of its foundation by King Henry the Sixth. This important milestone in Eton's history is being marked by a service on Sunday, June 15, in the college chapel, which will be attended by the Royal Family, and by an exhibition in school hall until June 24.

Eton's place in history is perhaps symbolised by its setting on the banks of Father Thames in good neighbourhood to ancient and royal Windsor. It is one of the great nurseries of the English spirit; and if it be not quite true that, in the Duke of Wellington's hackneyed phrase, "the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton," there is no man who would dispute that England in her hours of need has always been able to rely on Etonians, young and old.

It was the pious Henry the Sixth who in 1440, in the midst of a tragic life, founded "The King's College of Our Lady of Eton beside Windsor," as the "first pledge of his devotion to God." His school was for ten priests, four lay clerks, six choristers, 25 poor scholars, and 25 poor men. Today, upwards of a 1000 pupils may be seen within its walls, working or idling in the manner of schoolboys all over the world.

Secure in Our Affections

Eton College has survived many shocks in its five centuries, and has grown from strength to strength. Today it is an institution secure in the affections of most Englishmen as an essential part of the English scene, as irreplaceable texture in the English pattern of life.

He is a dull person indeed who can walk without a sense of wonder down Eton's narrow High Street and past the college buildings, old and new. Dull is he who can remain unmoved as he looks on that old school chapel with the small statue of the first headmaster—none other than Bishop Waynflete of Winchester—looking out from its walls, or walk beneath the archway into School Yard where Henry the Sixth stands, bearing that sceptre which on a much-remembered day long ago was

temporarily changed for a birch! Dull indeed is he who can survey this little domain of English Youth—

Ye distant spires, ye antique towers

That crown the watery glade

—without a realisation that here is the very stuff of England. And here, truly, is a veritable cradle of English history, for here so many of the men who have helped to shape English history have themselves been shaped—16 Prime Ministers among them.

Volumes have been written, and more will yet be written, on the gracious old buildings of Eton and all their treasures—from precious books and paintings to the very human letter from Nelson, begging a holiday for his nephew. Volumes more have been written on the men who have shed lustre on the old college, and in the case of Eton, their name is legion.

Here we have only been able to pay brief tribute to our most famous school on a great occasion in its history; and we conclude by echoing the sentiment of those two words that have winged their way to every corner of the globe: Floreat Etona!

A Fine Musician

SIR Sydney Nicholson, who has passed on at 72, was for nine years the organist at Westminster Abbey, after which he founded the School of English Church Music at Chislehurst, Kent.

A versatile musician, he was the author of some operas, including *The Boy Bishop* and *The Children of the Chapel*.

During the last twenty years of his life Sir Sydney Nicholson did much to improve the efficiency of Church choirs up and down the country.



THIS ENGLAND

School Yard and Lupton's Tower, Eton College

A Second Forth Bridge

WE are to have a second Forth Bridge to supplement the splendid structure that has been in existence since 1890. The existing bridge, a mile and a half long, is a railway bridge, but the new one, when it comes, will carry a road for motor-cars, horse-drawn vehicles, cycles, and pedestrians, all paying toll.

The present Forth Bridge, which has always been considered one of the greatest engineering achievements in the United Kingdom, is what is known as a cantilever bridge. The simplest cantilever bridge has two gigantic brackets, with a connecting girder section. When Lord Napier of Magdala saw the Forth Bridge being built he said to the engineers: "I suppose you touch your hats to the Chinese?" "Yes, indeed," was the reply, "bridges on this principle were built in China many centuries ago." But they were not such big ones as the Forth, which, having two main spans of 1710 feet and rising a clear 150 feet above the water, enables ships of any size to pass however high the tide.

The total weight of steel in the bridge is 51,000 tons, which, if arranged in a straight line of plates, would extend 45 miles. In time of peace the surface of the bridge always has painters at work on it, painting from end to end and then beginning all over again.

It took more than seven years to build the bridge, and the cost was more than £3,000,000 pounds. The engineers were Sir John Fowler and Sir Benjamin Baker.

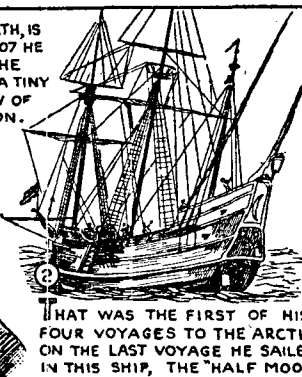
THE CURFEW AGAIN

FOR centuries the curfew bell of Auchtermuchty, in Scotland, has marked the setting of the sun with its sweet chime. Some weeks ago, however, protests were heard in Auchtermuchty for it had been decided to discontinue the practice of ringing the curfew.

Now in answer to a petition signed by 500 ratepayers the curfew is tolling again. May the old custom long continue.

WHO WAS HE?

① HIS BIRTH, LIKE HIS DEATH, IS SHROUDED IN MYSTERY. IN 1607 HE SET OUT TO SAIL "ACROSS THE NORTH POLE INTO ASIA" IN A TINY 60-TON SHIP WITH A CREW OF TEN AND HIS OWN SMALL SON.



② THAT WAS THE FIRST OF HIS FOUR VOYAGES TO THE ARCTIC ON THE LAST VOYAGE HE SAILED IN THIS SHIP, THE "HALF MOON."

Picture-Story of a Great Navigator

③ ONE DAY IN 1611, AFTER SEVERE TRIALS IN THE ICY WASTES, THE MEN MUTINIED AND FORCED HIM, HIS SON, AND SEVEN OTHER MEN INTO AN OPEN BOAT.



④ ALONE ON 500,000 SQUARE MILES OF UNCHARTED SEA, THEY DRIFTED TO AN UNKNOWN END

WHO WAS HE?
SEE BACK PAGE

THE CHIEF ENEMIES OF BOOKS

How Many Literary Treasures Have Been Destroyed

EUROPE'S libraries are gradually being restocked after the dreadful casualties of the war years, when hundreds of collections ranging from school and club libraries to historic treasure-houses were destroyed or pillaged.

War, of course, has ever been the deadliest of plagues to books and learning. In the burning of the Strasbourg Library during the Franco-German war of 1870 many priceless works perished, including the legal proceedings between Gutenberg and his associates as to whether or not he had invented the art of printing. During the First World War thousands of irreplaceable books and manuscripts were destroyed when the Germans burned the magnificent library of Louvain University.

During the late war the toll of lost books was even more severe. The German vandals destroyed many famous libraries, particularly in Italy, outstanding examples being the Biblioteca Capitolare at Verona, a mecca for students, the Library of the Royal Society in Naples, and the Columbaria Library at Florence. The losses due to bombing can never be fully assessed; more than four million books were burnt in London, in one small

area alone, on the night of December 29, 1940.

Wars, however, have not alone been responsible for the loss of rare books and manuscripts; ignorance, indifference, and sheer carelessness have all played a part.

In 1600 a London bookseller chartered three ships to bring a valuable collection to England. These were pursued by Corsairs, who captured one vessel and

finding to their disgust a mere cargo of books and manuscripts, cast them into the sea.

During the French Revolution an exceedingly rare copy of The Golden Legend was used to light a librarian's fire, and in 1862 a copy of The Canterbury Tales, valued at £500, served to light a fire in a London church. Carlyle's original manuscript of his French Revolution was burned by accident while in the possession of his friend, John Stuart Mill; and although Carlyle rewrote it, he always said that the second effort was not a patch on the first.

During the 18th century a servant of Bishop Warburton used several rare editions of dramas by Chapman, Greene, and Massinger to clean shoes and light fires. But perhaps one of the greatest literary losses of all times was after the death of Nicolas Claude Pierese in 1637. In his apartment was found a great chest filled with letters from the most eminent bookmen and scholars of his time. The collection was of immense literary and historic value. His niece, however, refused all requests to have them collated and published, and finally used them for fuel to save the expense of firewood!

Tiny Tractor

A new type of miniature tractor has been invented by a Norwegian farmer, Rasmus Wiig, and the estimated cost of it, if mass-produced, would be under £60.

Electrically driven, and with a 150-yard cable to link it to the nearest power point, the machine is only four feet long and about 18 inches high. Its introduction to this country might well revolutionise the farming of small-holdings.

It can be used for a variety of purposes and is particularly useful for small pieces of land in which ordinary tractors cannot work. British industrialists who have seen a film showing this "electric horse" at work, are keen to secure production rights.

Cornwall Keeps Its Boundary

THE River Tamar will continue to be the natural dividing line between Devon and Cornwall. Its fate in this respect has been in the balance ever since Plymouth Corporation prepared a scheme for extending the city boundaries. The scheme included an invasion across the Tamar into a portion of south-east Cornwall.

Cornishmen rose in stout opposition, jealous to preserve every inch of their native heath; and a Local Government Boundary Commission rejected Plymouth's desire to go into Cornwall, observing that the Tamar is "more than a boundary; it is a barrier."

The river was, of course, more of a barrier back in olden days. It practically isolated Cornwall from the rest of the country, and the "wild west" was an unknown region to many who lived on the Devon side. A geography book published during Queen Elizabeth's reign actually described Cornwall as "a foreign country on that side of England next to Spain."

The building of road bridges and the establishing of ferries helped to break down the almost insular position of Cornwall.

Then came Brunel's mighty steel bridge at Saltash. For 88 years trains have thundered across it, 100 feet above the Tamar, and an historian has described it as "spanning the silver streak which separates the Briton from the Englishman and destroying the isolation of the wild west."

FLYING FARMER

MR J. NICHOLSON, of Houghton Le Spring in Durham, has a farm there to manage as well as three other farms at Bedale, near Northallerton in Yorkshire. The ordinary means of travel using up too much of his time, Mr Nicholson has bought a De Havilland Hornet Moth, formerly used by the R.A.F., and now makes the journey of 35 miles in 20 minutes.

LORNA DOONE—R. D. Blackmore's Famous Romance of Exmoor, Told in Pictures

In 1673 John Ridd, aged 12, was brought home from school because his father, a prosperous Devon farmer of Exmoor, had been waylaid and murdered by robbers. These were the Doones, a family of cruel outlaws who terrorised the people of Exmoor. They lived in a strong-

hold in a lonely valley surrounded by cliffs. The founder of this vile band was old Sir Ensor Doone, who had been deprived of his estates in the North in King Charles the First's time, and in great bitterness had settled in wild Exmoor and brought up his sons to prey on his neighbours.

The countryfolk were so terrified of the Doones' revenge that they would not testify against them before magistrates. So they went unpunished for the murder of good Farmer Ridd, and young John had to prepare to be the man of the family and take care of his mother and sisters.



Some months later John explored a narrow gorge leading to the Doones' stronghold, a place the Exmoor folk shunned in dread. At the top he found himself looking down on the Doone Valley with its small, roughly-built houses. Then a pretty little girl appeared and told him, hanging her head in shame, that her name was Lorna Doone. John was sure she hated the robbers.

"Why did you come here?" she asked. "If they find you they will kill us both and bury us here. Listen! They are searching for me now!" They heard shouts of "Queen, Queen!" "They call me Queen," she said, "because they say I am to be their queen by and by." The voices sounded closer

"You pretend to be asleep. I'll hide," said John. From his hiding-place John saw several great rough men appear. One of the men cried: "Here's our queen, the captain's daughter, asleep!"—and he carried her off. She turned and gazed sadly towards John's hiding-place.

John grew into a tall young man and often thought of that little girl living among the robbers. Although it meant certain death if they found him, John ventured again into the Doone valley. He saw a beautiful young lady picking flowers. "Who are you?" she exclaimed.

Will Lorna recognise the little boy of long ago? See next week's instalment

The Children's Newspaper, June 14, 1947

Mercury, The Sun-Baked World

By the C N Astronomer

THE planet Mercury now appears at his farthest from the Sun, and is therefore at his best position for evening observation.

This farthest point is known as eastern elongation, because Mercury will then appear to us to be at his farthest point east of the Sun. This will be reached on June 17, when Mercury will appear telescopically like a tiny half-moon, as shown in the picture. He may be found to the west of north-west from about 10.30 p.m. until past midnight, when, however, he will be very near the horizon; at about 11 o'clock, which is the best time to seek Mercury, he will be about twelve times the Moon's apparent width above the horizon, and some way to the left of where the Sun had set. On Friday evening, June 20, there will be an additional aid, because the slender crescent of the Moon will then appear a little way to the left of and above that most rapidly-moving planet.

Mercury is now rapidly approaching us, and is at present about 75 million miles away, but in only four weeks' time this will be reduced to about 55 million miles. He will then be at his nearest to us but invisible, for he will be almost between us and the Sun. In the meantime Mercury's appearance, seen through a telescope, will gradually change to that of a crescent, as shown in the picture. This crescent will become more slender until, by mid-July, Mercury will almost vanish and only a thin streak may be perceptible as, on July 14, he passes from east to west at about 4½ degrees below the Sun—approximately nine times the apparent width of the Sun.

Extremes of Heat and Cold

Though only some 3000 miles in diameter, Mercury presents some very interesting features not found elsewhere. These are chiefly due to his proximity to the Sun, for Mercury is never more than 43,350,000 miles away and is sometimes as near as 28,550,000 miles; therefore very great variations must occur in the amount of heat received, for the apparent size of the Sun must vary from about four times to nine times greater than the Sun appears to us.

Mercury is a world in which the extremes of heat and cold exist at the same time to a degree not found elsewhere. This is because Mercury always appears to present the same side of his sphere to the Sun, exposed to terrific heat, while the other side remains in perpetual darkness, with frigid conditions.

The only light on this side is that of the stars, which would appear the same as to us, though in addition Venus would shine at times with the brilliance of a small moon; while the Earth and our Moon, like twin luminaries, would shine with a brilliance capable of casting shadows on Mercury's dark hemisphere.

G. F. M.

THE WHITE NORTH'S SECRET

THE North-West Passage is well established today, but the very story of its existence was a challenge to explorers until the early years of this century. This week marks the centenary of the death of the brave Englishman, Sir John Franklin, who perished in a gallant attempt to solve that mystery.

Born at Spilsby, Lincolnshire, the youngest of a family of 12, and intended for the church, he inherited a passion for the sea, and began his career at 14, serving next year at the battle of Copenhagen, and, when 19, in charge of signals on the Bellerophon, at Trafalgar.

His varied career included surveys of the Australian coasts, and distinguished service in later battles against the French; he fought in aid of Greek Independence; he was a good astronomer, and proved, as governor of Tasmania, a born administrator. But Arctic exploration was his abiding passion, in the frozen waters of Spitsbergen, and over the thousands of miles of starvation territory in the far north of America.

Sir John's first expedition there, three years in duration, was marked by such privations that moss and the leather of their boots alone saved the wanderers from starvation. Yet, with years advancing, Franklin repeated the land search later, and at 59 took command of the Erebus and Terror, with 134 picked officers and crew, sent out by the Admiralty to find the North West Passage, the fabled northern sea route from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Sailing from England in 1845, the two ships were last seen by white men in Melville Bay in July of that year, and then the White North received them,



never again to let them go. After three years' silence, search-ships began to seek them; 15 expeditions in all went in quest of them.

From 1850 onwards the tragedy began to piece itself together, as relic after relic was recovered, and story after story was told by Eskimo eye-witnesses. In 1857 a stone cairn at Point Victory, King William's Land, was found to contain a twofold message, written on an Admiralty sheet of notepaper. The first message, written in May 1847, stating that the ships had been icebound, ended with the words, "All well." But another hand had written, a year later, a second message, telling that Franklin had died on June 11, 1847, and that the total deaths then numbered nine officers and 15 men.

The full story of this greatest of polar tragedies can never be known. It was ascertained that Eskimos recovered the log books from one of the ships, but that the precious pages were all burnt, or allowed to blow away. Not one written word remained except the records in the single cairn. The search lasted over 80 years, yet no link with Franklin himself was ever found. He lies we know not where, but his name and fame shine immortal.

We can but honour Sir John Franklin as the perfect Christian hero; brave, wise, cheerful, enduring, constant unto death.

Herrings in British Rivers

By importing 45,000 tons of herrings from Britain by Anglo-American consent, as she is doing, Germany is reviving an ancient trade between this country and Western Europe.

The herring was for centuries one of the staples of our commerce, yet for more than 300 years it was not we, but the Germans, who conducted our herring industry here. The Hanseatic League, which was a powerful association of north German trading towns, dominated the foreign commerce of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, and a large part of ours as well, notably our woollen and herring industries. So rich and strong did the foreign workers become here that during the reign of Edward the Sixth they turned from wool and herrings to acts of war, taking arms to help in putting down the rebellion of Robert Kett, in Norfolk, where

the foreigners had two factories.

Not until Holland grew great as a nation of fishers and seamen did the power of the Hanseatic League, with its grip on our trade, begin to decline. Our pre-eminence as mariners and fishermen followed, never afterwards to decline. Our fishing ports built up a great export industry of herrings, salted, or partly dried as bloaters, or smoked as kippers and red herrings, which were sent in hundreds of thousands across the North Sea.

It is this trade that has been revived—and its demands can be easily met, for in a single day last November drifters at the port of Lowestoft alone landed eight million herrings. Our coastal waters are so attractive to herrings in their egg-laying season that the fish even come inland to lay their eggs in our rivers.

WANG AND SUN SEE HOW IT'S DONE

Two schoolboys of the Sandan Baile School in Kansu, North-West China, are coming to Britain to study British methods of textile manufacture.

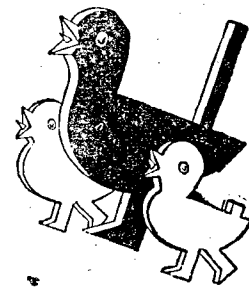
The two boys, Wang Wan-Sheng and Sun Kuang Chuin, will go to the Co-operative College, near Loughborough; and after studying there they will gain practical experience in a textile factory in the Midlands. Their training in England will last for two years,

after which, it is hoped, they will return to their village co-operative industry in China, qualified to instruct their fellow students in British methods of textile manufacture.

The visit of these Chinese boys has been made possible by British United Aid to China, and represents a pioneer experiment in its work to further Anglo-Chinese friendship and understanding.

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Best known -
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TO THE YOUTH OF BRITAIN

Would you not hate to see a noble stag chased by horsemen and hounds until exhausted—and then slaughtered? Help to stop this barbarity.

Write for information "League Against Cruel Sports," 58 Maddox Street, London, W.1.

H.R.H. Princess ELIZABETH Pictorial Souvenir

An elegant Souvenir Book of 21 photographs of Princess Elizabeth providing a unique year-by-year pictorial record of the life of Her Royal Highness from babyhood onwards. Price 2/6d from stationers, bookshops, stores, or from the publishers PITKINS 6, Clements Inn, London, W.C.2

Keep your strength up
— the sensible way.

Hovis

THE BETTER - BALANCED BREAD

THE BRAN TUB

JUST NONSENSE

ACROSS the burning desert sands a Polar bear came stealing. He had galoshes on his ears to keep his nose from peeling; And in clear ringing tones he cried, "Is this the road to Ealing?" Three monkeys sat upon his back arrayed in silk and gold, One was thin, and one was fat, and all were very old. Each bore a placard on its tail which said, "THIS HOUSE IS SOLD."

The monkeys sang in harmony, with voices sweet and low, "The weather will be fine and dry, with heavy rain or snow." "Quite right!" the Polar bear replied, "It's summertime, you know."

RODDY



"—And, I suppose, you have to wash every night, too!"

Maxim to Memorise

CONSCIENCE cannot be compelled.

BEDTIME CORNER

Higgledy-Piggledy

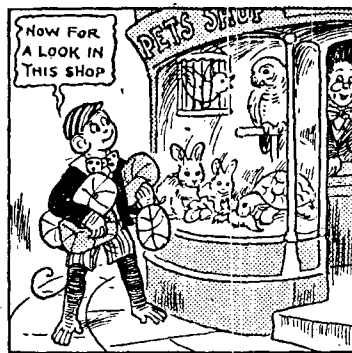
TIM had a hen, a black hen all his own. It was the only black hen on his father's farm, and he called it Higgledy-Piggledy.

One day Higgledy-Piggledy was missing. Tim looked everywhere—in the field, round the haystacks, and in the barns, but he could find only brown hens, and not a sign of a black one. Higgledy-Piggledy was lost, and Tim thought sadly that he would never see her again.

One day, about three weeks later, Tim was playing with a ball in the field. Higher and higher he threw, catching the ball as it came down. Then he missed a catch and, "Bother!" he said as the ball rolled away down the field and into the bed of stinging nettles at the bottom.

Tim looked at the nettles. They were very thick and tall. But balls are hard to get, and so, taking a big stick, Tim started to beat the nettles down. Suddenly he jumped as there was a loud squawk from the bank behind the nettles. Then he jumped again, this time for joy, because there, on a cosy nest in the side of the bank, sat Higgledy-Piggledy. He forgot the ball and raced up to the house.

Jacko's Purchase Has Its Good Points



Jacko had spent the morning shopping and finished at the Pets Shop.

SUPPORTING A BOOK

FROM rather stiff paper cut a strip a foot long and three inches wide. Now get a good-sized book and give this, with the paper, to a friend. Ask him if he can cut the strip into four pieces and with these support the book three inches above the table.

He will think that this is impossible, but it can be done by rolling each piece of paper into a tube. Then these can be used as legs to support the four corners of the book.

Hidden Islands

In the following verse the names of six islands in various parts of the world are concealed.

SMITH Minor called one day to ask if I

Would view the nice landscape in someone's plane.

I knew that if I jibbed he would be cross.

Soon I was airborne over field and lane.

I gave the cub a fright when I turned pale,

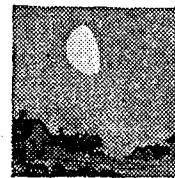
And felt so ill. . . . It was a dismal tale. *Answer next week*



Having spent all of Mother Jacko's points he saw a chance to replace some.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Mercury and Saturn are in the west and Jupiter is in the south. In the morning Venus is low in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 7 o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, June 11.



FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Builders in the Quarry. At the edge of the quarry the children paused. Below them scores of small brown, swallow-like birds darted to and fro.

"They're sand-martins," said Don. "Look at their nesting holes."

"I wonder if they made them?" queried Ann, gazing at the neat round openings which dotted the quarry walls.

"Yes," answered Farmer Gray, overhearing Ann's question. "Sometimes those tunnels extend for several feet. It is amazing that such small birds, with only beak and claws to aid them, can tunnel the sandstone in such a manner. Each tunnel slopes slightly upwards, which keeps the rain out."

Clever sand-martins.

Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, June 11, to Tuesday, June 17.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 The Wreck of the Toytown Belle (Part 1). 5.30 Mr Brunel's Ships (Number 1). **North, 5.30** What's Happening in the North. **Welsh, 5.0** Men of Darkness (Part 4); the Adventures of David (Nature Stories).

THURSDAY, 5.0 Badger's Bath—A story; Tolworth County Secondary School Girls' Choir; A Poaching Adventure. **Northern Ireland, 5.0** Peter Comes In From the Farm; Simpelkin and Grinelda (Part 4): What About a Cycling Holiday? (Part 4): Cambridge House School. **North, 5.0** Fairy Play: Current Affairs Quiz. **West, 5.0** Aunt Em—A Story.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Oscar and Ethel—A story; In His Majesty's Service (Part 4).

SATURDAY, 5.0 Stuff and Nonsense. **West, 5.0** The Donkey with a Criminal Mind—A story; Avon Vale Choir.

SUNDAY, 5.0 The Little Tailor. 5.30 Music by boys of Highgate School, London.

MONDAY, 5.0 The Naughty Princess. **Midland, 5.0** A Bobby Brewster story: Children in Other Lands—South Africa; Road Safety Exhibition—A talk. **Scottish, 5.40** The Hutman.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Three Friends; Two pianos. **Scottish, 5.25** Saying Goodbye; Songs. **West, 5.0** Torquay Grammar School Girls' Choir; Story.

The Children's Newspaper, June 14, 1947

MUTTON BARRED

A YOUNG man who lived down at Sutton Declared that he cared not a button What kind of meat They gave him to eat So long as it wasn't cold mutton.

The Test

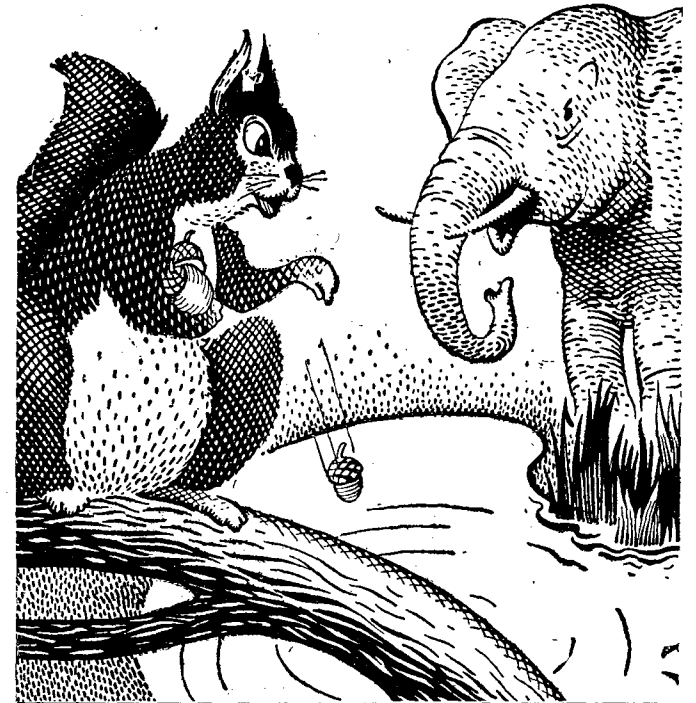
FRRIEND: I wonder if your poems will live after you're dead? **P**oet: I'd much rather they'd let me live while I'm alive.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Hidden Cricketers
Viljoen, Dyer,
Rowan, Lindsay,
Mann, Nourse.

M	I	L	E	B	O	A	T
A	I	N	C	E	N	S	E
S	A	N	D	A	L	S	A
T	E	E	O	V	A	L	
R	A	I	L	W	A	Y	
D	A	R	N	L	E	G	
A	T	E	M	P	I	R	E
R	E	A	P	E	R	S	A
E	D	I	T	Y	E	A	R

ÆSOP-TO-DATE



THE ELEPHANT AND THE FOOLISH SQUIRREL

An Elephant one day observed a Squirrel dropping nuts into a pool. "Why do you not store them for the winter—as the wiser squirrels do?" asked the Elephant. "I can only store one nut at a time," answered the squirrel, "and it seems such slow work. So I'm making a jolly little splash instead." "Foolish Creature!" said the Elephant. "When you really want the nuts, you will have none."

To-day's Moral to this Savings Fable is:

If you're wise, and save some money week by week, you'll have a nice store for when you wish to buy something special. But if, instead, you make a "jolly little splash" and spend it every week—then, when you really want the money, you will have none.

NATIONAL SAVINGS STAMPS

Issued by the National Savings Committee